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Echocardiography
Heart & Circulation Ultrasound Specialists

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December 21, 2010

Carmine Valente, PhD, CAE,
Chief Executive Officer, American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine

Harvey Nisenbaum, MD
President, American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine

Dear Drs. Valente and Nisenbaum:

The Executive Committee of the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) received an enthusiastic report from Dr. Kirk Spencer, Chair of ASE Guidelines and Standards Committee, following his attendance as ASE representative at the recent AIUM meeting on point-of-care ultrasound. As a result of Dr. Spencer's recommendations, the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) would like to make the following suggestions/requests for future involvement with the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine:

- ASE representative placement on the writing group for the proposed ultrasound guided vascular access document on performance. ASE has a vascular access document in the review process, with publication expected in early 2011. We believe a representative from the ASE vascular access writing group would be an asset to the AIUM writing group or task force.
- ASE involvement in the proposed guideline on paracentesis, thoracentesis and emergent pericardiocentesis.
- More involvement with AIUM as well as an on-going and open dialogue between our societies. As part of the annual strategic planning process by the ASE Board of Directors, we include shared conversation and discussion with representatives of sister societies. The results of this environmental scan have not only been a more knowledgeable Board, enabling them to make smarter decisions for our future, but also greater collaboration between the societies. We would be pleased to include AIUM in future dialogue. In addition, ASE would also welcome the opportunity to place representatives on key AIUM committees or the Board of Directors.

I will be pleased to discuss these and other ideas for collaboration and look forward to your response.

Best regards,

Sanjiv Kaul, MD, FASE
President, American Society of Echocardiography
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